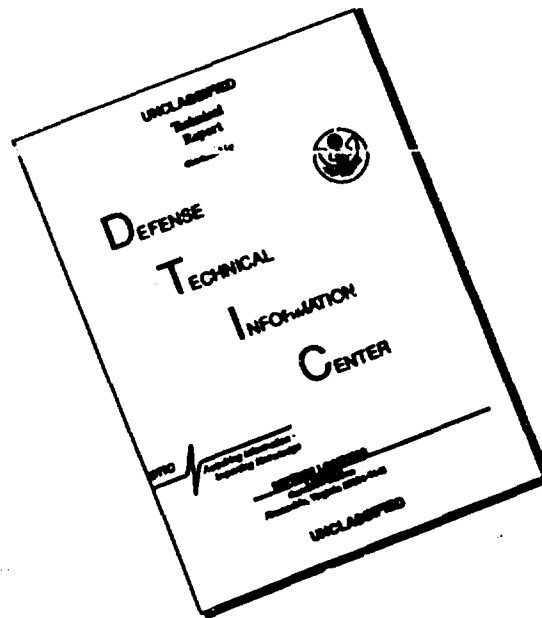


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USE OF IMMUNOFLUORESCENCE METHOD IN IMMUNOLOGICAL
DIAGNOSIS (PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS)

• La Presse Medicale
(The Medical Press)
Vol 71, No 55, 1963, pp 2740-2742

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(Study accomplished in part with the assistance of the National Hygiene
Institute.)

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Faculty of Lyon (Pr Sohier) and the Dermatology Service of the Antiquaille
Hospital (Pr agr. Thivolet).)

Summary

Are the methods of immunofluorescence sufficiently used in immuno-
logical diagnosis? The search for antibodies by means of these methods
appeared interesting in many bacterial diseases, especially syphilis,
as well as diseases due to parasites, mushrooms, virus, and particularly
the pneumopathy due to the Eaton agent, in diseases with auto-antibodies
(lupus erythematosus, Hashimoto disease, myasthenia); but it seems that
these methods have so far not yet been used as widely in practice as they
should be.

Conclusion

~~This~~ quick review of the applications of the immunofluorescence
method in immunological diagnosis brings out the gap still existing between
the rather numerous preliminary studies and their extension to broad prac-
tical use. On the basis of this latter criterion, we can single out 3
applications: the test applied to the diagnosis of syphilis (F.T.A. test);
the diagnostic test for pneumopathies due to the Eaton agent, and the test
~~in which we look~~ for antinuclear antibodies. We should really have stand-
ardised all of these tests by now and we might hope that other reactions
more practical ones, at that, will be applied, at least as regards the

Easton agent.

But the current vogue of these techniques and their improvement lead us to believe that we might be able to add other studies, expanding the field of application of this method right now and confirming certain basic premises, to the currently probably incomplete list which we have established here.